CLAIMS

Claims 1-2, 4-9, 11-18, 20-25, and 27-34 have been amended.

Dependent claims 16 and 32 have been amended to read as independent claims.

Claim 35 has been added.

1.   (Currently Amended) A method to facilitate network-based shopping,

comprising the method including:

    facilitating a communication between a network-based auction facility and a

seller, whereby the seller authorizes the communication to authorize a bidder to bid on

an offering offered a sale listing that is listed for sale by the seller; and

    automatically recording the bidder as authorized to bid on the offering sale

listing responsive to the communication.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the network-based

auction facility prevents the bidder from bidding on the offering without the

authorization from the seller requires the seller to authorize the bidder before the

bidder may bid on the sale listing.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the bidder and the seller have buying

and selling privileges respectively with the network-based auction facility.

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4.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication includes a seller request to authorize bidders to bid on the ~~offering~~ <u>sale listing</u>.

5.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication includes allowing the seller to add and to remove an authorization restriction multiple times during an auction ~~of the offering~~ <u>pertaining to the sale listing</u>.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the communication includes a bidder request to the seller to authorize the bidder to bid on the ~~offering~~ <u>sale listing</u>.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, including providing access to the seller to ~~the bidder's~~ <u>a</u> bidding history <u>associated with the bidder</u> and profile information <u>associated with the bidder</u> thereby to assist the seller in determining whether to authorize the bidder to bid on the ~~offering~~ <u>sale listing</u>.

8.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the ~~bidder's~~ bidding history and <u>the</u> profile information ~~is~~ <u>are</u> provided by the network-based auction facility.

9.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~item~~ <u>sale listing</u> includes a high profile ~~offering~~ <u>sale listing</u>.

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10.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.

11.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the network-based auction facility includes ~~the~~ an auction web site.

12.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein an authorization restriction requirement is displayed on ~~the offering~~ a view item web page.

13.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a seller vetting process information is displayed on a personalized web page of the seller that is linked to a web page of the ~~offering~~ sale listing.

14.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the seller authorizes only a predetermined currency to be used to purchase the ~~offering offered~~ sale listing that is listed for sale by the seller.

15.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the seller authorizes a predetermined geographic area, and wherein ~~a~~ the bidder within the predetermined geographic area is allowed by the network-based auction facility to bid on the ~~offering offered~~ sale listing that is listed for sale by the seller and a further bidder outside the predetermined geographic area is prevented from bidding on the ~~offering~~ sale listing.

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16. (Currently Amended) <u>A method to facilitate network-based shopping, the method including</u> ~~The method of claim 1, further comprising~~:

facilitating a communication between a network-based shopping facility and a seller~~, whereby the seller authorizes~~ <u>the communication to authorize</u> a buyer to buy an offering offered for sale by the seller; and

automatically recording the buyer as authorized to buy the offering responsive to the communication.

17. (Currently Amended) A system to facilitate network-based shopping~~,~~ ~~comprising~~ <u>the system including</u>:

a communications module to facilitate a communication between a network-based auction facility and a seller; and

an authorization module to facilitate a seller authorization of a bidder to bid on a ~~offering~~ <u>sale listing</u> via the communication.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the authorization module ~~is to prevent the bidder from bidding on the offering without the authorization from the seller~~ <u>requires the seller to authorize the bidder before the bidder may bid on the sale listing</u>.

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19.   (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the bidder and the seller have buying and selling privileges respectively with the network based auction facility.

20.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the communication includes a seller request to authorize bidders to bid on the ~~offering~~ sale listing

21.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the seller can add and remove the pre-approval restriction multiple times during the auction ~~of the offering~~ pertaining to the sale listing.

22.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 20, wherein the communication includes a bidder request to the seller to authorize the bidder to bid on the ~~offering~~ sale listing.

23.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 20, wherein the communications module is to provide access to the seller to ~~the bidder's~~ a bidding history associated with the bidder and profile information associated with the bidder thereby to assist the seller in determining whether to authorize the bidder to bid on the ~~offering~~ sale listing.

24.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 23, wherein the ~~bidder's~~ bidding history and the profile information ~~is~~ are provided by the network-based auction facility.

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25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the ~~offering~~ sale listing includes a high profile ~~offering~~ sale listing.

26. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the network includes the Internet.

27. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 26, wherein the network-based auction facility includes ~~the~~ an auction web site.

28. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 26, wherein an authorization restriction requirement is displayed on ~~the offering~~ a view item web page.

29. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein a seller vetting process information is displayed on a personalized web page of the seller that is linked to a web page of the ~~offering~~ sale listing.

30. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the seller authorizes only a predetermined currency to be used to purchase the ~~offering offered~~ sale listing that is listed for sale by the seller.

31. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the seller authorizes a predetermined geographic area, and wherein ~~a~~ the bidder within the predetermined

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geographic area is allowed by the network-based auction facility to bid on the ~~offering~~ ~~offered~~ <u>sale listing that is listed</u> for sale by the seller and a further bidder outside the predetermined geographic area is prevented from bidding on the ~~offering~~ <u>sale listing</u>.

32.   (Currently Amended) <u>A system to facilitate network-based shopping, the system including</u> ~~The system of claim 17, further comprising~~:

a communications module to facilitate a communication between a network-based shopping facility and a seller; and

an authorization module to facilitate a seller authorization of a buyer to buy an offering via the communication.

33.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a set of instructions to translate instructions, the set instructions, which when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform a method to ~~facilitate network-based~~ ~~shopping comprising~~:

~~facilitating~~ <u>facilitate</u> a communication between a network-based auction facility and a seller<u>,</u> ~~whereby the seller authorizes~~ <u>the communication to authorize</u> a bidder to bid on an ~~offering offered~~ <u>sale listing that is listed</u> for sale by the seller; and

automatically ~~recording~~ <u>record</u> the bidder as authorized to bid on the ~~offering~~ <u>sale</u> listing responsive to the communication.

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34. (Currently Amended) A system to facilitate network-based shopping ~~comprising~~ including:

means for facilitating a communication between a network-based auction facility and a seller; and

means for facilitating a seller authorization of a bidder to bid on an offering via the communication.

35. (New) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a set of instructions to translate instructions, the set of instructions, which when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform a method to:

facilitate a communication between a network-based shopping facility and a seller, the communication to authorize a buyer to buy an offering offered for sale by the seller; and

automatically record the buyer as authorized to buy the offering responsive to the communication.